

## Iron County Register.

By ELI D. AKE  
IRONTON, MISSOURI

William A. Knapp, a broker filed a petition in voluntary bankruptcy in Chicago, on the 23d, with liabilities scheduled at \$82,500 and assets of \$1,250.

Capt. Daniel G. Farr, one of the oldest and wealthiest citizens of Louisville, Ky., was found dead in bed, on the 19th. He at one time operated a line of boats on the Ohio and Mississippi rivers.

Representative Spaulding, of North Dakota, introduced a bill in congress on the 21st, appropriating \$100,000 each for monuments to William McKinley and to Alexander Hamilton, in the District of Columbia.

Postmaster-General Payne, on the 19th, announced that there was nothing to bar postmasters or other federal office-holders from serving as delegates to political conventions, whether national, state or county.

The estate of Charles Hall, for which more than a dozen widows entered claims, was distributed by order of court on the 19th, at Los Angeles, Cal. The entire estate, amounting to \$144,000 went to heirs in Boston.

The will of former Gov. Asa S. Bushnell was filed at Springfield, O., on the 20th, for probate. It provided for the distribution of practically all of his estate, valued at \$7,000,000, among his wife and children.

An urgent deficiency appropriation of \$300,000 was requested of congress on the 19th, by Postmaster-General Payne, to enable the establishment of rural free delivery routes after March 1, when funds would be exhausted.

John Alexander Dowle, with his party from the east, sailed from San Francisco, for Australia, on the steamer Sonoma, on the 21st. While in San Francisco Dowle delivered two addresses, but was coldly received on both occasions.

The third anniversary of the death of Queen Victoria was observed, on the 22d, in London. There was the usual memorial service at Frogmore, which was attended by the king and Queen Alexandra, and other members of the royal family.

The officials of Wells, Fargo & Co., in San Francisco, on the 23d, reiterated their previous statement that the express safe stolen from the Sunset limited train near San Luis Obispo, Cal., on the 21st, contained but a small amount of treasure.

About fifty leading citizens of the state of New Hampshire, at a meeting at Concord, on the 20th, agreed to try to raise not less than \$15,000 by popular subscription, in order that the state might be represented at the coming exposition at St. Louis.

Gov. Cummins of Iowa had a brief interview, on the 19th, with President Roosevelt. The governor said his chief mission to Washington, D. C., at that time was to confer with officials of the war department regarding the status of the Iowa troops at the battle of Shiloh.

Lincoln's birthday will be celebrated by the Lincoln club, of Chicago, by a banquet, on February 12, at the Auditorium hotel. Secretary of the Treasury Shaw, Congressman Henry S. Bontell and Congressman Robert G. Cousins, of Iowa, will be the speakers.

Alexander Roland Milne, C. M. G., collector of customs for many years at Victoria, B. C., died there, on the 18th. He was a recognized authority on matters pertaining to sealing, and was decorated with the order of St. Michael and St. George by the late Queen Victoria.

George Hall, defaulting county collector of St. Joseph, Mo., who left there nine years ago with a deficit of over \$30,000 in his accounts, on the 22d, sent word to his bondsmen that he was now in Monterey, Mex., and would soon return to reimburse them for losses.

The contract for the construction of the extension of the federal building at Kansas City, Mo., was let, on the 19th, to John C. Robinson, of Chicago, at \$311,911, work to be completed by December 1, 1905, the granite to match that in the present building in color, quality and texture.

A disastrous tornado swept over Mountville, Ala., a town of 300 inhabitants, 15 miles south of Tusculoo, Ala., early on the 23d, and as a result 57 persons were killed and more than 100 injured. Every business house, with the exception of a small drug store, was destroyed.

Hon. James K. Jones, chairman of the democratic national committee, on the 18th, announced the personnel of the committee on arrangements for the democratic national convention, and called a meeting of that committee for February 2 next, at 10 o'clock a. m. at the Southern hotel, St. Louis.

The first lake of oil ever discovered in Colorado was tapped, on the 21st, while drilling well No. 212 at Spindletop Heights, three miles south of Florence, Col. The oil body was encountered at a depth of 2,775 feet, and the well, it was believed, would produce more than any six wells in the field.

Post office inspectors in Chicago, on the 21st, arrested A. F. McIntire, formerly of St. Louis, on a charge of operating a get-rich-quick concern. It was alleged that in St. Louis McIntire was at the head of a brokerage and banking concern which did an illegitimate business. McIntire was taken to St. Louis.

"Guilty as charged, with recommendation to the court for mercy," was the verdict rendered by the superior court jury, on the 20th, in the case against Alderman Jacob P. Ellen, of Grand Rapids, Mich., charged with having accepted a bribe of \$350 from ex-City Attorney Lant K. Salisbury, in the Lake Michigan water deal scandal.

## TOPICS OF THE DAY.

NEWS FROM EVERYWHERE  
FIFTY-EIGHTH CONGRESS.

(First Session.)  
Senate.—The post office inquiry resolution and the Panama canal question divided the attention of the senate, on the 19th. The first hour of the session was given up to the inquiry. Messrs. Hale and Gorman being the speakers. Mr. Hale made a plea for the reference of all postal investigations resolutions to the committee on post offices, and Mr. Gorman being the speaker, Mr. Hale was satisfied with that disposal of the question. The discussion of the Panama canal question was continued to the continuation of the United States in the recent revolt of Panama was contrary to international law and sound morals. The senate, at 2 p. m., went into executive session, and at 5:50 p. m. adjourned. House.—The house devoted a brief session to the District of Columbia business. While the committee of the whole on one bill, the post office scandal was discussed, a letter from Mr. W. L. Wilson, who felt aggrieved at certain statements in the House report, introduced. Mr. Wilson pointed out that Mr. Wilson was irregularly appointed just in time to let and connect that the government should more than necessary. At 1:25 p. m. the house adjourned.

Senate.—The senate required less than an hour to dispose of the motion to refer to the committee on post offices the various resolutions looking to an investigation of the post office department. After the passage of a half-dozen bills, the senate resumed consideration of the Panama canal question. Mr. Quarles spoke for almost two hours in support of the canal, and Mr. Gorman, in opposition. Mr. Patterson, who criticized the president's course in Panama, introduced a resolution to amend the canal act, and had not concluded when the senate adjourned, at 5 p. m.

House.—The house passed a bill to amend the act relating to the pure food bill, but did not complete it. The principal speeches of the day were made by Mr. McHenry and Mr. Mann, in favor of the bill, and Adamson and Clark, in opposition. On motion of Mr. McHenry, the house took a recess at 2:25 o'clock until 11:55 a. m. on the 20th.

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The body of Miss Sarah Schaefer, teacher of Latin in the Bedford (Ind.) high school, was found in a carriage house, on the 23d. She had been assaulted and robbed, and the body was badly mutilated. The appearance of the shed indicated a terrible struggle with her assailant. Miss Schaefer went to Bedford from Elkhart, Ind.

President Plattz of Lawrence university at Appleton, Wis., on the 22d, said that there would be no more Thanksgiving football for that institution. The decision was reached because of agitation in religious papers against the game on that day.

Prof. Robert Stuart Page, superintendent of the Freeport (Ill.) public schools, and prominent in educational circles in the west, died at Freeport, on the 22d, from the effects of a paralytic stroke.

The Southern Grain and Stock Co., of Los Angeles, Cal., went into voluntary liquidation, on the 22d, as a result of the erratic action of certain stocks in New York.

President Harper of Chicago university and Garl Melchers, the artist, were decorated, at Paris, France, on the 22d, with the cross of the Legion of Honor.

Hon. Augustus Anderson, of Stratford, Ia., one of the oldest and most highly respected citizens in central Iowa, died, on the 22d, aged 66 years.

It was reported, on the 22d, that four people were drowned in the Washburn river, at Merom, Ind., by the sweeping away of a houseboat.

Dr. Edmond Andrews, one of the oldest and most widely known physicians in the west, died, on the 22d at Chicago.

House.—The house, on the 25d, adopted a resolution requesting of the secretary of the navy information as to the number of horses, carriages and automobiles maintained at the expense of the government for officials of the navy department. The urgency deficiency bill was reported and notice given that the bill would be called up for consideration immediately after the army bill had been disposed of.

The house then went into committee of the whole, and resumed consideration of the army appropriation bill. An amendment by Mr. Slayden (Texas), limiting the appropriation for books to the purchase of technical works pertaining to the work of the war department, was agreed to. The paragraph providing \$321,580 for a submarine cable from Sitka to Fort Lisens, Alaska, went out on a point of order.

United States Senator Joseph Ralph Burton, of Kansas, was indicted, on the 24th, at St. Louis, by the federal grand jury, on a charge that he received \$2,500 from the Rialto Grain and Securities Co., of St. Louis, for services rendered at Washington, D. C., in an attempt to prevent the post office department from issuing a fraud order against that concern.

Mrs. Catherine Bechtel, the aged mother of Mabel Bechtel, who was found murdered, last October, at Allentown, Pa., was acquitted, on the 23d, of the charge of being an accessory to the murder after the fact. Her trial occupied nine days, and the jury deliberated on hour before rendering the verdict of not guilty.

I. N. Walker, conductor of the Iowa Central wrecking train which collided with a switching train near Peoria, Ill., Jan. 28, killing three men, was arrested, on the 23d, on a coroner's warrant charging him with manslaughter. He was released on \$5,000 bonds, on the 24th.

Maddened by the intense cold, which had frozen its ears and trunk, an elephant belonging to an animal show which had been exhibiting at a St. Paul (Minn.) theater, on the 24th, almost killed its keeper, Conrad Castens, and partially wrecked the Milwaukee freight house.

Two masked men entered the office of the Anheuser-Busch distributing plant at St. Joseph, Mo., on the 23d, and at the point of revolvers, compelled the manager to give them \$250, all the funds on hand.

Senate.—The senate, on the 25th, heard further discussion on the question of appointments to office made during congressional recesses, listened to a speech on the isthmian canal question by Mr. Morgan, and passed a number of bills of a semi-public character. Among the bills passed was one authorizing the erecting of a monument to the memory of John Paul Jones. The senate, at 5:02, went into executive session, and, at 5:08 p. m. adjourned.

House.—The house passed the army appropriation bill, carrying approximately \$75,000,000, after adopting a number of amendments. The provision for the consolidation of the adjutant-general's department and the record and pension offices of the war department into one bureau, to be known as the military secretary's office, was stricken from the bill on a point of order raised by Mr. Grosvenor, of Ohio. At 4:05 p. m. the house adjourned.

The north and central wines of the state school for indigent children, at Owatonna, Minn., was gutted by fire, on the 25th. All the inmates were taken from the building uninjured. Nineteen babies domiciled in the south wing were safely taken out. The loss was not stated, but there was insurance on the building of \$50,000.

Aldermen A. L. Gray and George Schwartz, City Attorney Fontaine and City Assessor Parmentier, of Green Bay, Wis., were arrested, on the 25th, on warrants based on indictments returned by the grand jury charging them with bribery. All were admitted to bail.

In every one of 22 churches in Belingham, Wash., resolutions were passed, on the 24th, calling upon Senators Ankeny and Foster, of the state of Washington, to cast their ballots in the senate against the seating of Senator Reed Smoot, of Utah.

On recommendation of Senator Heyburn, of Idaho, the president, on the 25th, appointed H. Smith Woolley, a former bishop of the Mormon church, to be assayer of the mint at Boise City, Idaho.

The chief justice of the supreme court of the United States, on the 25th, announced that on February 2 the court would take a recess for three weeks.

David E. Thompson, United States minister to Brazil, arrived at New York, on the 25th, on the steamer Tennyson, from Rio Janeiro.

## MISSOURI STATE NEWS.

### A Shocking Double Tragedy.

Edward Hardin was found mortally wounded in his yard and his hired man dead in the house by J. M. Boyd and W. L. McCutchen when they visited Hardin's place near Tipton. Hardin had been shot, apparently at close range, with a shotgun, and had lain helpless and mortally wounded for some time in the yard. He was picked up by Boyd and McCutchen and taken to the house, where it was found that the doors were locked. On breaking into the place a gruesome spectacle was disclosed. Lying on the bed in the sleeping-room was the corpse of the hired man, who had apparently locked himself in the house, after shooting his employer, and committed suicide by sending the contents of the shotgun into his head. The two men occupied the house alone and it is not known what led to the killing.

### Spent Too Much Money.

The police believe they have in James Henderson, alias John Hall, alias Harding, alias Jones, of Denver, who was arrested at St. Joseph, one of the robbers who wrecked and robbed the bank at Goffs, Kas., securing over \$4,000 in currency, besides many valuable papers. Henderson had \$623.30 when arrested. The arrest was made in Lucille Oakland's place, on lower Felix street, where Henderson had been spending money like water. While the officers were there he pulled out a roll of bills, threw \$10 bills at the inmates, and, as a crowning effort, lighted a cigarette with a \$10 bill. Henderson says his home is now in Denver, but that he formerly was in Chicago.

### Estate Not Large Enough.

It is not believed by the executors that the estate of W. W. Kendall, alias Kansas City shoe manufacturer who died recently, is of sufficient value to satisfy the bequest of his will, which directed that \$250,000 be given to the Methodist Episcopal church as a memorial fund. A liberal estimate of the total value of the estate, it is said, is \$200,000. By the terms of the will the bequest to heirs amounts to \$250,000, and the claims of the heirs take precedence of the bequest to the church.

### Grain Dealers Confer.

The Grain Dealers' union of southwestern Iowa and northwestern Missouri held its semi-annual meeting at Sedalia. The union, of which D. Hunter, of Hamburg, Ia., is president and G. A. Stibbens, of Chicago, is secretary, was organized in Sedalia last spring, and has rapidly grown in membership. The principal objects of the union are to secure satisfactory terminal rates, equitable inspection, and better freight rates from the railroads.

### Inmate Man's Rash Act.

James Payne, a patient at the state hospital for insane at St. Joseph, attempted to gouge out his eyes with a needle extracted from a window frame. One eye is believed to be entirely destroyed and the other is badly injured. Payne is 60 years of age and is a private patient. He went from St. Louis to St. Joseph several years ago.

### Katy Train Ditched.

A Missouri, Kansas & Texas train was ditched at Booneville. Engineer William Trogel and Fireman F. A. Spendiff were seriously scalded by escaping steam from the engine, and Conductor Stone was severely bruised. None of the passengers was seriously injured.

### Held For the Grand Jury.

Frederick H. Schulte, charged with wrecking a train, causing the death of Engineer William Trogel, was given a preliminary trial at Booneville and held for the grand jury in the sum of \$5,000. He was unable to secure a bondsman and was jailed.

### Instructor in Poultry Raising.

Mrs. Ida K. Tilson, of Ripan college, has been appointed to conduct the classes in poultry raising at Missouri university. The enrollment in the poultry course this year is unusually large, many faculty members being enrolled as students.

### Death of a Veteran.

Capt. Benjamin R. Bonner, a civil war veteran and at one time a member of the legislature, died in St. Louis, aged 74. He was prominent in fraternal circles.

### Capital Stock Increased.

The Great Northern Fuel Co., of St. Louis, has secured a certificate from the secretary of state to increase its capital stock from \$100,000 to \$1,000,000.

### Mortorman Killed.

A suburban trolley car jumped the track in St. Louis, while going at a high rate of speed, and Mortorman Michael Godfrey was killed.

### Footpad Sentenced.

William McHugh, a footpad, was sentenced to serve four years in the penitentiary by a jury in Judge McDonald's court in St. Louis.

### They Will All Be There.

France, Germany, Mexico, England, China, Japan and Brazil will each spend over \$5,000,000 on elaborate exhibits at the World's fair.

### Disastrous Sleet Storm.

The worst sleet storm in years passed over northwest Missouri. Telephone, telegraph and electric light systems were crippled.

### Appointed by the Governor.

Gov. Dockery has appointed John R. Ransom to be clerk of Jackson county, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Charles V. Rinick.

### Farmer Hanged Himself.

Ed. Hawkins, a farmer, 56 years old, committed suicide near Harrisonville by hanging. Sickness had unbalanced his mind.

### Justice F. W. Hinman.

Justice F. W. Hinman, the oldest member of the St. Charles county bar, died at the home of his sister in St. Charles.

### Negro Killed in Saloon.

George Fickla, a negro, was killed by Tony Costello, 23 years old, in a St. Louis saloon. Costello wielded a poker.

### Farmer Drops Dead.

James S. Miller, who resided seven miles northwest of Nevada, dropped dead while working in his hog lot.

## FIRE WIPES OUT SOUR LAKE, TEX.

Four Business Blocks of the Town Reduced to Ashes.

LOSS AGGREGATING \$300,000

The Flames Swept Through the Frame Buildings Like Kindling Wood—No Fire Department Renders Citizens Powerless.

Dallas, Tex., Jan. 25.—The business portion of Sour Lake was wiped out by fire Sunday night. The flames caught among the frame buildings like they were kindling wood and swept on through the town, which was helpless. There is no fire department, and it was only by almost superhuman efforts that the citizens checked the flames and prevented the destruction of the residence section. Four blocks in all were reduced to ashes.

For a time it was thought the oil fields would be ignited, but they are so far from town that the flames did not communicate.

The losses are in the neighborhood of \$300,000, only partly covered by insurance, as the companies would not write large risks because of the inflammable environment of the oil districts, which were all frame.

The principal business institutions in the fire district were the First National bank, the Sour Lake National bank, post office, telephone exchange, Oriental hotel, Spencer Drug Co., White Oil Co.'s building, Southern Pacific station, electric light plant, and a score or more of small business concerns in tents, all of which are believed to have been burned. The town had about 10,000 inhabitants.

Telephone wires are down and information from there is meager. A telephone message from Sour Lake at 10:30 verifies former reports. Four blocks of business concerns were burned.

Sour Lake is in darkness, and a strong patrol of citizens is maintained around goods piled upon the ground to keep away thieves.

The origin of the fire has not been definitely determined. Some attribute it to incendiaries, others say it was from a defective flue, and still others declare a gasoline stove exploded and started the flames.

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